*Maſter Page.* Wife bid theſe gentlemen welcome: come, we haue a hot Veniſon paſty to dinner; Come gentlemen, I hope we ſhall drinke downe all vnkindneſſe.

*Slen.* I had rather then forty ſhillings I had my booke of Songs and Sonnets heere: How now *Simple*, where haue you beene? I muſt wait on my ſelfe, muſt I? you haue not the booke of Riddles about you, haue you?

*Sim.* Booke of Riddles? why did you not lend it to *Alice Short-cake* vpon Alhallowmas laſt, a fortnight afore Michaelmas.

*Shal.* Come Coz, come Coz, wee ſtay for you: a word with you Coz: marry this there is as 'twere a tender, a kinde of tender, made a farre-off by Sir *Hugh* here: doe you vnderſtand me?

*Slen.* I Sir, you ſhall finde me reaſonable, if it be ſo, I ſhall doe that that it reaſon.

*Shal.* Nay, but vnderſtand me.

*Slen.* So I doe Sir.

*Euan.* Giue eare to his motions; (*Maſter Slender*) *I* will deſcription the matter to you, if you be capacity of it.

*Slen.* Nay, I will doe as my Cozen *Shallow* ſaies: *I* pray you pardon me, he's a *Iuſtice* of Peace in his Countrie, ſimple though I ſtand here.

*Euan.* But that is not the queſtion: the queſtion is concerning your marriage.

*Shal.* I, there's the point Sir.

*Eu.* Marry is it: the very point of it, to Miſt. *Anne Page*.

*Slen.* Why if it be ſo; *I* will marry her vpon any reaſonable demands.

*Eu.* But can you affection the 'oman, let vs command to know that of your mouth, or of your lips: for diuers Philoſophers hold, that the lips is parcell of the mouth: therefore preciſely, can you carry your good will to the maide?

*Shal.* Coſen *Abraham Slender*, can you loue her?

*Slen.* I hope ſir, I will doe as it ſhall become one that would doe reaſon.

*Euan.* Nay, got's Lords, and his Ladies, you muſt ſpeake



poſſitable, if you can carry-her your deſi

*Shal.* That you muſt.

Will you, (vpon good dowry) marry h

*Slen.* *I* will doe a greater thing then th queſt (Coſen) in any reaſon.

*Shal.* Nay conceiue mee, conceiue me what *I* doe is to pleaſure you (Coz the maid?

*Slen.* *I* will marry her (Sir) at your there be no great loue in the beginning, decreaſe it vpon better acquaintance, when and haue more occaſion to know one vpon familiarity will grow more con ſay mary-her, *I* will mary-her, that *I* am and diſſolutely.

*Euan.* It is a fery diſcretion-anſwere; the'ord, diſſolutely; the ort is (according reſolutely: his meaning is good.

*Sh.* *I*, *I* thinke my Coſen meant well.

*Slen.* *I* or elſe *I* would *I* might be hang'd

*Sh.* Here comes faire Miſtris *Anne*; wo for your ſake, Miſtris *Anne*.

*An.* The dinner is on the Table, my Fa worſhips company.

*Sh.* *I* will wait on him, (faire Miſtris *A*

*Euan.* Od's pleſſed-will; *I* will not be ab

*An.* Wil't pleaſe your worſhip to come i

*Sl.* No, *I* thanke you forſooth, hartely;

*An.* The dinner attends you Sir.

*Sl.* *I* am not a-hungry, *I* thanke yo Sirha, for all you are my man, goe waite *Shallow*; a *Iuſtice* of peace ſometime may his friend, for a Man; *I* keepe but three M till my Mother be dead; but what though a poore Gentleman borne.

*An.* *I* may not goe in without your w not ſit till you come.